Wagon Wheel Stations

Station 1: Advantages of a laude system over a ranking system

Comments:

- Students in top 10% can still earn scholarship money (13 agrees)
- Students can become more driven to earn an honor if outside the top 10% (3 agrees)
- More opportunities for recognition in a high-performing class (4 agrees)
- A class of “slackers” doesn’t necessarily get a top 10% recognition (4 agrees)
- Compete with self and own GPA, not against classmates...don’t have to hope someone falls off in order to move up (5 agrees)
- More opportunity for varied coursework (4 agrees)
- Less animosity amongst students competing for rank

Station 2: Concerns/questions I have about the laude system

Comments:

- Will there be more weighted classes added to class selection?
- Will all parents buy in?
- School comparisons (small school bias)
- Will there be a penalty or stigma (new system)?
- Are we truly awarding excellence or watering down?
- How much scholarship money are we talking about for each level?
- What about special needs student who earns a 3.7? Is that where we would apply “with honors” for AP/DC?
- How do we decide what our system looks like? Course requirements, activities, etc?
- Using citizenship would be problematic (1 agree)
- Will we keep Valedictorian/Salutatorian? Some students are driven to get that recognition. Others give up when they realize they can make top 10%. Keeps them motivated through senior year to reach laude level (1 agree)
- How do we educate the community? (1 agree)

Station 3: Pick a statement

Statement 1: “A graduation system should recognize the highest GPA.” (1 student agreed)

Statement 2: “A graduation system should recognize success in a well-rounded, rigorous course load.” (4 parents agreed, 4 faculty agreed, 3 students agreed)